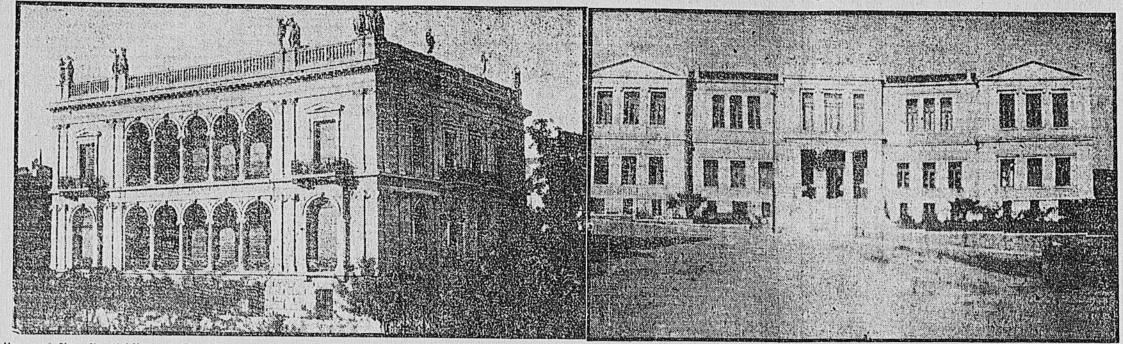
## Among the Greeks---Live Matters of Politics and Business in Modern Athens---Sunday Elections and Queer Ballot Boxes



BY FRANK G. CARPENTER. Athens.

omes of the world; its marble of Europe, and its stores are blackberry bushes on top Blue Ridge. About fifty years had something like 10,000 peowho dwelt in 300 miserable houses ay it has almost 200,000, and ng them are Greek millionaires have made fortunes in Alexandria Cairo. Constantinople and other centres the Mediterranean Sea. It is the aim of the Greek to come to Athens to die, and the rich bring their avings and live here in luxury. They pend so much that the finest of every-

here else in the world, A Look Over Athens, view of the city.

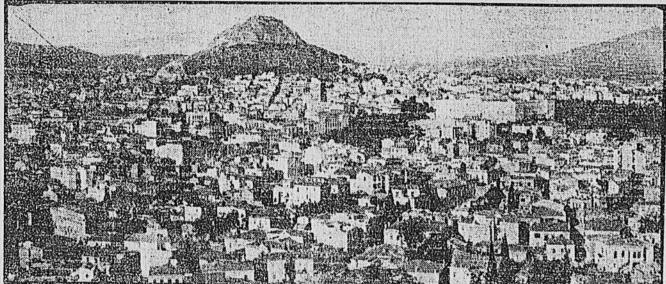
the outskirts are the massive

Blot Cut the Memory

of breakfast spoiled by poor

cooking-bread with poor

leavening - muffins that didn't stand up as they



also the new stadium, which was The creeted by an Alexandrian-Greek milis is a hill of rose-colored lime-which rises to a height of two being repaired and repolished, and I

As I look closer at the buildings beover are the parliament building and at Constitution Square, in front of the schools, and scattered palaces. There the car lines converge and from there go off the chief bus-

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This Baking Powder with its

to the north of it are the chief public buildings, including the university the library, the National Museum and the Academy of Sciences. am told that its cost altogether has of buildings of much the same been about \$800,000. height. They are painted pink, sky church may be seen, and occasionally rising out of a garden a clump of tall cypress trees of dark green. But little manufacturing is done, and I can count the smokestacks on my threes.

A Ride Though Athens. several miles on the tramway for ground where Diogenes went with his

well paved, and many are covered with five million Greeks." now being planted with trees.

The main part of the city is compactly built and the business buildings are four and five stories. The shops have plate-glass windows, and the best of them are devoted to dry goods, fancy millinery, jewelry and other such things. The shopping hour is from 5 o 7 every evening, at which time the streets are thronged with fashion-

Shrewd Business Men,

I have spent some time in the .stores talking with the merchants and lookat their establishments. The Greeks understand how to do bustness. They are smart traders, their character being well expressed by a character being well expressed by a saying which is current throughout the Orient. It reads: "From the Greeks of Athens, from the Jews of Saloniki, and from the Armenians everywhere, good Lord deliver us!" It is said in the near East that one Greek is equal to two Jews, and, although the Jews are scattered throughout other parts of the Mediterranean you will harts of the Mediterranean, you will and none in Athens. The storekeepers have no fixed prices and you bargain for everything. You must dicker with your doctor, butcher and baker, and even with your druggist. There are no price marks in the average stars. no price marks in the average store if so, the bargaining is done all

The Cafes of Athens, A great many of the people live in flats and dine at the cafes and restaurants. Rents are high and nouse are taxed 5 per cent, on the rental. If one lives in his own house he has to pay a percentage on the rent it would probably bring. The cafes are good. They are full of people afternoon and evening, and many of them ken open il night. At those about the Place de la Constitution you may see men chatting as late as 3 o'clock in the morning. There are also dairy lunch norning. There are also dairy funch coms, where a breakfast, consisting of eggs, rolls and butter may be had at low cost; and afternoon, tea rooms near the palace and otherwheres. As to hotels, Athens has a dozen of fairly good ones at which tourists can stop, and there are a score more which are At the best houses the rates are from \$3 to \$5 a day, on the Ameri-can plan, or you can pay for your rooms and order what you please at fixed prices per meal or per dish Many of the native hotels let rooms without meals, and there are boardinghouses where one can get accommodations from \$1.50 to \$2 per day.

Attens is a city of Politicians.
Attens is a city of politicians. Every modern Greek is a statesman, and the average man will sattle the greatest questions of the world off-hand. The chief places for political discussion are about the cafes. There are a half dozen news journals, and each man reads his paper as he sips his coffee reads his paper as he sips his coffee. The papers are printed in the same characters that you find in the Greek classies, the modern Greek language being much like that of ancient Greec. Indeed, I find that I can get along with a phrase book, I can read the papers, and can even discover the points of some of the jokes in the comic periodicals. Just now the chief

they expect to hold a high place in power in all things financial.
Said Count Mercati, one of the lead

ing officials of the court here, to me

"The modern Greek is the strongest or to the Areopegus, the high rocky and his colonies are found as far north cliff upon which St. Paul stood when as Khartum, where Lord Kitchener preached his sermon to the said that the Greeks aided him greatly in bringing order out of the chaos of The streets in Athens are wide and the Soudan. Turkey alone has four or

figurehead, and a foreigner, They do godchildren. A change of administranot allow him to have anything to say about politics, and King George understands this and keeps out. It was different with Otto of Bavaria, who was king before George Otto meddled with public suestions and this caused his expulsion. The Greeks tell me that they believe in a perfect equality among themselves, and they could not have this if they had a Greek king. Therefore they have chosen Dane for the throne.
The Greek Parliament.

The chief business of Greece is done

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the congressmen are elected affirmative ballots, and on the other the negative. The ballots are buckshot is given only as many buckshot as there each candidate is

The term of the members of par session. They are allowed free passes on the rallways.

Parliament makes all the laws and votes all the money to run the govceremony. a scuiffe ensued, during which an ink bottle was thrown into the holy water tion means a change of offices.

When a new government is elected the old clerks have to leave, and this is so of school teachers and college professors, as well as of the librarians During my sta and officers of the museums.
From Athens to Paris by Rail.

trunk line. I am told it would not cost more than \$8,000,000 to make the extension, and that both the great and on into a second tunnel and thence powers of Europe and the sultan have approved of its construction. It is delayed, however, for fear of military troubles. When it is completed it will have a great influence upon Greece. It will probably change the through fast route to India, which now goes by Italy and Brindisi, to this road to the Piracus. The mails will go that way and the passenger travel as well. people are excited over the possibili-ties, and the money for building the line could probably be raised without

Chances for American Trade. In the operation of this road there is no reason why American locomotives should not be used. The country is mountainous, and our railroad engines are said to be the best for such regions. Americans are popular here, and it night pay our locomotive companies o investigate the situation.

Speaking of American machinery, I am told that the people are beginning successfully maintained our suto use it. American sewing machines revolvers and also arms made by the Germans to imitate American arms and sold as such. As to agricultural ma-chines, the farms are small and the most of the implements are similar to those of the days of Herodotus.

Waterworks for Athens.

Other openings might be found in supplying Athens with water. The city often suffers from drought, and as it is now, it is about the dustiest town of the Orient. The streets are macadamized, and the roads grind the metal to powder. The soil is thin and the dust is a white flour which perimmentes everything. It covers your boots to such an extent that you have to have them blacked several times every day and this has caused Athens to have more bootblacks than any other town of its size in the world. The water now comes from a reservoir on Mount Lykabettos, but the supply is not sufficient and they are provinced. Waterworks for Athens, NOCAK Headquarters I Lykabettos, but the supply is not sufficient, and they are now talking of utilizing the falls of the Styx, which are a long distance away, the scheme proposing an expenditure to something

Another enterprise which is already under way and largely successful is the draining of Lake Kopais, the largest lake in Greece. This lake lies in the mountains some distance north-

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tained no water except in winter, when earth washings of centuries, and will In the summer it was almost as good as any in Central Park, lead government of inis little country, The father to babies, and it is said, that pany conceived the idea of reclaiming sibe from ten to a hundred aer ing down to the Piracus, and this is Greeks have a king, but he is merely a one statesman here has a thousand the land, and it spent about two and company has already about seven tunnel through one of the mountains. pointments are made on the old Jack. It had gotten the rough work done when its money ran out, and it went into the hands of a receiver. A Scottish company then took up the con-cession, and now, after twenty-three

years, it has about \$5,000 acres of land During my stay in Athens I have called upon the manager of the com-From Athens to Paris by Reil.

Just now one of the questions which is agitating the Greeks is the building of a railroad to connect the system here with the line which runs from Paris to Constantinople. Greece has in the neighborhood of nine hundred miles of railroads. It has some which go to the northern boundary and which by an extension of less than sixty miles could be joined to the great Paris trunk line. I am told it would not called upon the manager of the company, Mr. J. B. Steele, and had a talk with him about the undertaking. He tells me that the draining was done by making a girdle canal around the basin where the lake lay to catch the waters of the rivers and to prevent them entering it. This girdle was twenty miles long and it joined a cutting in the mountain of two miles by a tunnel, which was twenty-five feet high, sixteen feet wide and three thousand feet long. After leaving the tunnel

Mr. Steele says that the soil of the

of cattle. He tells me it is its itea to employ the latest of agricultural inventions, but so far it has found most of them unfitted to the soil. This is especially so of our heavy harvesters and reapers, and as it is now the most of the wheat and other grain is cut with the sickle.

Oone feature of this reclamation of the lake. This burns easily, and agement has had great trouble from fires started there. These have burnt down the soil so that the level of the earth has dropped over six feet, doing serious damage to the canals, cut for a higher level. The peasants find that the burning peat leaves a coat of ashes upon which they can sow their grain and grow rich crops without much cultivation. They are, therefore, interested in having the burning go

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